

# Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

## Approved World Board Minutes

28 September – 1 October 2016

**World Board:** Tana Agostini, Irene Crawley, Paul Fitzgerald, Odilson Gomes Braz, Arne Hassel-Gren, Mark Hersh, Jack Hovenier, Franney Jardine, Khalil Johnson, Jose Luis Andreu, Tali McCall, Antonia Nikolinakou, MaryEllen Polin and Tim Smith

**Staff:** Becky Meyer, Eileen Perez Jane Nickels and Travis Koplou

### Wednesday 28 September

Meeting opened at 9:05am with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a few announcements.

New World Board (WB) members welcomed to their first meeting. Various updates provided on Executive Committee (EC) calls, the new member orientation which took place by webinars, Thursday WB reboot session plans, new World Board members seating as well as affirming incoming Executive Committee members later this week.

### World Board Development

#### The Operating Values Group will focus on the Operating Values

The March 2016 questionnaire and information will be discussed towards the end of week.

### 2016-2018 NAWS Workplan

#### Remaining Items from WSC 2016

##### FIPT Survey results

Responses received from 49 Delegates. Responses show that conference delegates felt one way while at the conference and once home opinions changed. Survey results did not show clear agreement from delegates and because of this Board discussed developing a report tailored from the World Board and not conference participants as originally planned. Report could include WSC discussion, address survey comments and concerns.

Additional thoughts:

- Create a summary of the facts, reporting where issue currently stands, emphasizing difference between this being board opinion and a report. Information would also be included in *NAWS News*.
- Include the conversation about the affordable Basic Text and how historical pricing is actually very important and considering inflation book is more affordable today.
- In dealing with FIPT issues there will need to be something separate and distinct that can be translated.
- Create a piece for Annual Report.

Developed piece will be sent to the board for review prior to being distributed.

A lengthy discussion took place on other conference proposals submitted that were not adopted.

### 2016-2018 NAWS Workplan

#### Beginning discussion of the Workplan for the cycle

This discussion includes reviewing the goals for all projects, other work in the document including the Conference Participant discussion board, and assignments. The Future of the WSC and Collaboration objectives are covered in other places on the agenda.

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### Recovery Literature project plan and charge

No objections to the Meditation book and Mental Health IP questions being distributed. The WB will have time to review the drafts following this meeting.

### Service Tools and PR

No objection to what has been presented for Service tools and PR strategies and focus. Staff has been discussing methods to assist people finding the information online.

### Collaboration in Service Project Plan

Collaboration in Service project will be discussed on Thursday.

### Future of the WSC Project Plan

This will be discussed Friday afternoon. During an earlier dialog on framing WSC seating realized needing new Rules of Order since motion to do away with formal business was adopted. Explore and develop methods on how to create more interaction during the cycle have discussion at the conference.

### Fellowship Development and Public Relations Project Plan

No objection Objective 6-A seeking out those from zones interested in being a contact and a part of groups to discuss possible coordinated strategies for PR. This request could be made next e-blast.

### Social Media as a PR Tool Project Plan

Develop a paragraph in NA Way and NAWS News that asks communities to share any experience with social media as a PR tool; with possible future webinars and/or focus groups.

### 2016-2018 objectives without project plans

#### WB Development

WB Development focus to enhance Board effectiveness, building on strategies initiated during 2014-2016 cycle. Values workgroup talked about using mission statement; working on unity and common understating.

Staff will experiment with Zoom to see how the audio functions and small group function works with a group of participants.

Next WB Webinar being October 28<sup>th</sup> 1pm pacific, typically 90 minutes long.

#### Targeting FD Resources

Use of NAWS resources for fellowship development; create new and relevant tools to support efforts.

#### Fellowship Communication

Create short video for H&I and Fellowship Development. Videos will be uploaded to the FTP site or a site that protects people's privacy.

#### Financial Contributions

The Financial Contribution objective assigned to the BPG.

#### IDT 16-18

Top three results from Conference Agenda Report survey are:

- Atmosphere of recovery in service received 24.3% votes from region and 14.6% from

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individual members.

- Applying our principles to technology and social media received 19.5% votes from region and 15.7% from individual members.
- How to use Guiding Principles received 11.9% votes from region and 9.7% from individual members.

The IDT's are currently being practiced in a couple of workshops. The profiles and materials will be finalized following this meeting and sent to the WB for review. When finished they will be posted to [www.na.org/idt](http://www.na.org/idt).

### Possible Workgroups Reported During Moving Forward Session

Delegate Sharing and 2018 WSC Seating Groups member selection being decided in December 2016. The Board agreed with both groups being finalized by the Executive Committee with selections being reported to the Board.

Staff forward individuals for *Reaching Out* group and *NA Way* Magazine editorial boards to the EC for sign off. These groups are non-traveling virtual workgroups.

### Communicating with Fellowship

We communicated there limited resources available for projects during the conference. People interested in projects will be asked to send in their name and details. The challenge this cycle will be to experiment with how to draw in interested members and provide a meaningful way to provide input.

We are also exploring with different methods to keep tasks and information before the Board since most of the work is not delegated to a workgroup.

NAWS News will report resources for Business Plan Group, the 2018 WSC Seating group and Delegate Sharing group and ways to create less expensive methods to work. Still unknown is if focus groups will be used in the future. World Board must be diligent in communicating information about workgroups and welcoming input since it is unclear if information is reaching the local member. Last cycle we also discovered virtual workgroups were more labor intensive than originally thought, staff continues exploring ways to reach out to more people and increase participation. We will be interacting at forums and need to be clear in communications.

### Conference Participant Discussion Board

If there is a perceived problem with a bulletin board posting the moderator is to communicate with the EC chair or EC Committee. Everyone is encouraged to remain engaged as participants on the conference participant bulletin board.

Jack H selected as the conference participant bulletin board moderator, Franney and Mark will assist.

The board meeting ended for the day in a WB Sharing Session that is not a recorded portion of the meeting.

## Thursday 15 October

### World Board Reboot Day

A separate agenda was provided for the day. Everyone had previously been asked to bring a quote about leadership that has some meaning personally and as a WB member.

World Board focus today is evaluation of the body as a whole and as well as individually. In that

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evaluation, the board looked at performance; leadership, duties, and operating efficiently. Also explored evaluating if time together is being spent efficiently, are opportunities in the fellowship being utilized and how the World Board is performing their role.

**Who We Are:** Focus is essential board roles, the board as a leadership body, skills, experience and perspective of the group and how to make the most of it. Using the Highlight of Team Profile; review information as a leader of this body and as the leader what words would you use to characterize team? What are the team's primary assets and how would you make most of the team, where might there be weaknesses, what might be some of the challenges leading this team and finally what skills might be necessary to lead this team.

Describe the Board

WB Assets

The challenges of managing a group like this?

Manage a team like this successfully?

Board Development

Summary of a high performance team

Legal duties including:

**Duty of CARE:** Board members stay informed. Act with reasonable care and in good faith in carrying out their responsibilities, and exercise *independent* judgment in making decisions.

**DUTY OF LOYALTY:** Board members put the interests of the organization and those it serves above their own when making decisions and representing the organization. World Board decision supported despite individual opinion.

**Duty of OBEDIENCE:** Board members ensure compliance with the organization's bylaws, policies and procedures, and all applicable Federal, State, and local laws.

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The Board discussed how to prepare the as a leadership body. What does the fellowship need from the Board as a leadership body and how to navigate the opportunities and challenges of this role. Some quotes read and concepts from those extrapolated.

World Board Leadership Concepts

The Practice of Effective Leadership

To better understand what is occurring in the environment so we can better understand where Leadership needed.

Evolving Need for Leadership

Changing environment

### Board operations

Strategic Plan three steps include scanning, assessments and goal setting. Each cycle we've tried to engage Delegates in the strategic plan process. Best place to get Delegates involved is in the environmental scan sometime after the conference. Discussion focused on what that would look like.

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### Friday 16 October

#### Corporate Responsibilities

The World Board chair opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Serenity prayer.

#### Affirmation of EC Members

First item of the day is to affirm the incoming World Board chair, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

Affirmed EC members are Arne Hassel-Gren as the chair, Odilson Gomes Braz Junior as vice chair, MaryEllen Polin as secretary, and Tana Agostini as treasurer.

The four WB members elected at the World Service Conference and affirmed by the World Board are Jack Hovenier, Tim Smith, Khalil Johnson, and Jose Luis Andreu for 6 year terms. They were legally seated by the chair yesterday.

The 2016-2017 Corporate Resolutions approved.

Revised Code of Ethics and Conduct and Whistleblower Policy approved.

Changes to the Bylaws approved

The Bylaws of Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc. were approved as revised to reflect decisions made at WSC 2016. The approved Bylaws will be filed with the State of California.

#### Approve March 2016 Minutes

Minutes approved without objection with two minor edits. No changes to what information will be contained in World Board minutes.

Current NAWS Org Chart approved.

#### The Russian LWB stories approved for publication and the record

The World Board approved RU stories 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 for in the Russian Little White Booklet.

Afrikaans stories Approved for publications in the AK Little White Booklet 5 stories as presented.

The use of social media as a push only experiment by WSO Iran approved.

#### Financial Update

Financial statement explained, followed by questions. Staff thanked for comprehensible financial reports.

#### Future of the WSC

**Strategy 4A - Based on the results of the WSC discussions, continue to further the discussion about WSC sustainability and effectiveness, and frame viable options for WSC seating.**

Closing statements from our outgoing Chair after which the board meeting ended for the day.

### Saturday 8 August

#### 2016-2018 NAWS Workplan

Meeting opened with a moment of silence, followed the Serenity prayer, overview of items needing to be accomplished today and miscellaneous announcements.

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The World Board discussed the 16-18 Workplan.

### Future of the WSC

Mark, Tali and Franney designated points for their small groups. Each group will further develop material/ideas on WSC seating and sustainability, reporting progress on the October 28 webinar.

### FIPT Fellowship Statement

Draft will be sent to the WB for review.

### RD Assignments for the cycle

This was started as a way to better connect with Regional Delegates. Many Board members and Delegates find this contact both helpful and educational.

### WB schedule for the cycle

- No change to July 19-22, 2017 meeting date, will instead seek to move the strategic planning day to Friday, July 21.
- September 2017 meeting will instead be held Oct 4-7 2017
- No change to February 2018 meeting date, no other options-a board member will miss a couple of days.

The World Board approved updated meeting cycle dates for 2016-2018.

## World Board Development

Discussion of a possible self-evaluation tool for the World Board. Feedback provided on the resume to use as a future tool.

### Self and peer evaluation

The tool has been on the World Boards radar for some time. Initially timing was an issue along with it being unrealistic to ask new WB members to evaluate other Board members. Therefore agreement is to wait for everyone to be on the same playing field.

### Philippines Update

We have done everything the RD has asked of us; which was to provide literature for their PR efforts and videos.

Meeting adjourned Saturday, 12:46pm, October 1, 2016 followed by NA anniversary recognitions.